

MAINE FARMER

VOL. XXVI.

AUGUSTA, MAINE, THURSDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 2, 1858.

NO. 50.



Our Home, our Country, and our Brother Man

SALTING BEEF AND PORK.

It so happens in "Yankeedom" that a great many new married couples commence "keeping house" during the week after Thanksgiving." Well, after the honeymoon is over they will want some beef and pork to live upon. Those of them who are not convenient to market will, of course, obtain their supply, and "lay it down," as good housewives say.

Then will come the question, "How shall we do it?" Old housekeepers have their rules for doing this, but they vary according as the experience or taste of the individual dictates.

We copy the following from the Germantown Telegraph, which claims to be the originator of it. We don't think much of the saltpetre and potash, which he recommends, for the other ingredients will preserve the meat well. Nevertheless, they will add to the antiseptic properties of the salt and sugar, and may suit the taste of many. We should recommend the pearlash instead of common potash, it being the same thing—only a little more pure.

"This receipt, which originated with us, and has now had many years of trial, we believe to be unsurpassed as a pickle. Nearly all the modern receipts which have appeared in the different agricultural journals, and worth anything, partake, in some instances almost identically, of the salt and sugar, and may suit the taste of many. We should recommend the pearlash instead of common potash, it being the same thing—only a little more pure."

To 1 gallon of water,
Take 14 lbs. of salt,
½ oz. saltpetre,
½ oz. potash.

In this ratio the pickle to be increased to any

Let these be boiled together until all the dirt from the salt and sugar rises to the top and is skimmed off. Then throw the pickle into a large tub to cool, and when cold, pour it over your beef or pork, to remain the usual time, say from four to six weeks, according to the size of the pieces, and the kind of meat. The meat must be well covered with the pickle, and it should not be put down for at least two days after killing, during which time it should be slightly sprinkled with powdered saltpetre.

Several of our friends have omitted the boiling of the pickle, and found it to answer equally as well. It will not, however, answer quite so well. By boiling the pickle, it is purified—for the amount of dirt which is thrown off by the operation, from the salt and sugar, is surprising.

PAINT UP THE IRON TOOLS.

The action of the weather upon farm implements when they are not protected, we have found, by experience, to do nearly as much, and sometimes more, towards their destruction than the wear and tear. Ploughs, cultivators and such like tools, are in use only in the warmer parts of the season. During the winter they lay unused by their owners, but, unless protected sufficiently, the weather uses them pretty hard. The farmer's use of them is severe at times, but it is occasional and interrupted. The weather's use of them is constant, uninterrupted, either by day or by night; every moment of time the action of the elements, heat and cold, expands and contracts, moisture pervades and rusts them, and oxygen combines with them and causes off.

Last spring Mr. Baker sowed the 17th of April. He had just completed plowing and harrowing three acres of oat stubble, as the freezing weather commenced, for his next year's crop. He informed me that one neighbor only has had the courage the past season, to adopt his method, and that with great caution, as only half an acre was allowed for the experiment, on a dry cobble stone plain; but to his great disappointment it yielded him more wheat, and of good quality, than he had obtained from the same locality on larger territory for several years past.

Mr. Baker thinks there are several advantages of no inconsiderable importance in this mode of raising wheat. First, it is attended with less labor, and at a season of the year for the greater part of the work, interfering less with other farming operations. Both the plowing in the fall, and sowing in the spring, is at a time when the farmer is the least hurried in his work, and puts him on a par with the wheat growers of the west, who sow their grain in the fall, leaving the spring season free for other purposes.

Secondly, by sowing thus early in our climate, the wheat escapes by its early and vigorous growth, the many dangers that surround it on every side, when sown later in the season. Last, and not the least consideration of importance, is the certainty that more seed, both of the wheat and clover, will take by a more even and superficial covering, as neither the feet of oxen or horses could plow up the earth, carrying some of the seed three or four inches below the surface, never to see the light again; or leaving it in other places high and dry on the top, to be scorched by a May or June sun. In the old way of sowing clover with wheat, not more than half in some cases can possibly sprout, but is totally lost.

It is not for the great quantity of wheat grown to the acre that Mr. Baker attaches so much importance to his mode of cultivation, (though that may be greatly increased by high manuring,) but to the greater certainty of an average crop in quantity; and that quantity of the first quality, as you will see by the specimen sent. Is this mode of raising wheat in Maine a new idea, an old one that has been tried before, and exploded? Let us know.

J. PRESCOTT.

CULTURE OF WHEAT.

We publish to-day an interesting communication from Dr. Prescott, on the culture of wheat by Mr. J. Baker of Strong. We like the suggestions and have no doubt as to the facts in regard to Mr. Baker's success. But what preserves Mr. B.'s wheat from the "midge," or weevil, is more than we can tell. It used to be the practice to sow wheat as early as it could be put in, until the weevil came among us. This early sowing prevented the wheat from suffering by rust, but the weevil took it. This is the case with some crops of winter wheat—the weevil takes it in many places.

It seems, however, that the weevil has not yet troubled friend Baker's, and he has done well with the culture in his mode of practice. We hope that others will also try his mode and let us hear the results. Probably not many have their land prepared as he has, but another year they can try the experiment. Had Maine never raised good crops of wheat, we should give up its culture in despair. But the time was when our farmers sowed failed of having good crops of this valuable grain. We are confident that such times will again return.

EXPERIENCE is the most eloquent of preachers, but she never has a large congregation.

THE WHEAT QUESTION AGAIN.

MR. EDITOR:—It is yet a question to be decided, whether wheat can be successfully grown in Maine, on old farms, under the culture of the plough. By successfully, I mean an average crop, in bushels, of good plump kernel, free from rust, smut, or the ravages of insects, in a majority of years,—for certain conditions in seasons, may occasionally injure any crop that usually matures in our climate. From some facts which have recently come to my knowledge, I am more than half inclined to believe the secret of growing good wheat in a majority of years, has been discovered. At least, the experiment seems to me worthy of extensive and repeated trials by the farmers of Maine.

You will recollect, when we were on a tour of observation in Franklin County, some three years since, that we were invited, and very kindly entertained, by Mr. James Baker, of Strong.—Well, in compliance with a standing invitation, taking our "better half" with us, we measured off the time, quite recently, so as to fall in there for the night, and part of the day. Mr. Baker is a practical farmer, has no objection to theories if found in accordance with facts; but he looks for the facts first, by the aid of good common sense and correct discrimination. He has a large farm, keeps a large stock, and has every convenience about house and barn, for comfort and labor saving. You know he told us, when there together, that he had wintered, the preceding year, two hundred sheep, without the loss of a single one, or of their lambs.

This farm embraces a high ridge of land, facing the south-west. The soil is a deep rocky loam, with dry ridges and intervening swales, though not very wet and muddy. Some portions of it is what we term rocky, and the slate ledges are occasionally seen cropping out in travelling over it. His tillage land furnishes sufficient material for the construction of wall around the fields and pastures. In one of these enclosures he has grown wheat, without a failure, the three last years, on an average of over twenty bushels to the acre. The present year, three acres produced fifty-seven bushels, a sample of which I furnish you for inspection. It is the common red variety, and Mr. Baker, I think, told me he obtained the seed from Illinois, several years ago.

This plan is designed to meet the wants of farmers in Maine, who have moderate sized farms devoted to the usual "mixed husbandry."

The exterior of the buildings is in a plain Gothic style, as seen in the front elevation; the situation is fronting the west, thus giving a sunny side to the greatest number of apartments. The frame may be of light timber, covered with shingled boards and battenning strips, planed or unplaned, or finished in the usual manner, with clapboards, with trimmings of a plain kind; the roofs are projecting, with a pitch of a little more than forty-five degrees; the chimneys and supporting columns of the piazza and wood-shed, are slender, corresponding with the style.

The interior is arranged for the comfort and convenience of the farmer's family, where the house and dairy work is usually done by the wife and daughters. The well, cistern, wood-house,

FARM BUILDINGS.

We present our readers, this week, with the accompanying view and plans for a commodious residence for a farmer, with its appropriate outbuildings. The plan is one that was presented to the Maine State Ag. Society, by Mrs. Isaac W. Case, of Kenduskeag, and published in the Transactions of that Society, for the year 1857.

We copy Mrs. C.'s description, and recommend those of our readers who think of building, to study this plan, before finally concluding on the arrangement and style of their new house.

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The interior is arranged for the comfort and convenience of the farmer's family, where the house and dairy work is usually done by the wife and daughters. The well, cistern, wood-house,

is on the north side of the house.

The house is in cottage form, a story and a half high, with piazzas, one in front and another at the side; the roof has side gables, which light the chambers and give a finish to its appearance. The ground plan needs but little description; it has all the needed rooms, with closets, passages, &c., as may be seen. A few words about the kitchen and dairy rooms may be well, as they are generally considered the most important part of the farm house. The first opens from the rear of the dining-room; it is lighted by two windows on the south side. The chimney is between this room and the dairy in the rear, giving place for a large brick oven and a stove or range; a large storm room, with sink and pumps of hard and soft water, and a pantry, each lighted by a large window, open from this room. The dairy kitchen is of the same size as the main kitchen; it has conveniences for a boiler or two, and is lighted from the south side. A flight of stairs leads from this room to the ice cellar beneath, and another over them to the shed chamber; and a door opens upon the piazza or recess near the wood-shed, (this recess in front of these kitchens will be found by the farmer's wife a convenient place for drying dairy utensils, &c.) Connected with this room are a cheese room and a milk room, with windows to the north, the south of which should be hung so as to

admit of a cross-breeze.

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AUGUSTA.
THURSDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 2, 1858.

TOWN SCHOOLS.

The "Mondays next after Thanksgiving" is the day which ancient custom has established, throughout almost all New England, as the day on which the winter session of the Town Schools in the several districts shall commence.

The good practical sense and far seeing prudence of the Puritans laid the plan and foundation of these public schools,—humble but powerful institutions of learning, in which every child, from high to low, from rich to poor, should have an equal chance to acquire the first great rudiments of learning at the public expense. These schools, established as they were among a people who were under the necessity of employing themselves, and every child who could do anything, in some sort of productive labor in the summer, were opened during the winter, when the children could not be employed so profitably, and the time was devoted to the improvement of their minds. Hence, when the harvests were over, and the day of thanks had been suitably celebrated, the schools were opened and the children sent to their respective teachers to obtain as much knowledge as their time, talents and opportunities would allow during the season. A more abundant condition of funds was known in early times, enables the people of cities and villages to have public schools in operation now, all the time,—but in country districts the good old custom still prevails, and the "Mondays after Thanksgiving" opens hundreds and thousands of schoolrooms, to a mighty multitude of young and ardent minds, who eagerly seize the opportunity to store up the first principles of an education which is to make them useful for all their coming lives.

It is a serious consideration for all concerned, for parent and child, for pupil and teacher, how can the school be rendered most profitable to these young minds? It indeed appears most strange how anybody can think of these schools with indifference; more especially does it appear strange to us that parents who have children in these schools, can pass along without bestowing hardly a thought upon them, or seeming to care in the least whether they are well or ill managed, and whether their children receive their education for good or for evil. One or the other they will receive there. You can have no neutrality about it. One or the other the young mind will be trained, to as sure as it goes there. Do you think, because you have built a school house, furnished it suitably, and hired a competent teacher, furnished your children with the required books and sent them to the school, that you have nothing else to do? Indeed your work has just begun, and your responsibility just commenced. It is as if you had built, and equipped, and manned your ship, and just started on your voyage, for, accordingly as you manage that voyage will be your profits, and accordingly as you manage that school will be the profits—profits to the rising generation, which will bear happily or grievously upon them to all eternity.

But what can you do? You have no time, you say, to visit schools, and no authority to meddle with them, if you do visit them. What can you do? Much; very much. Everybody has some influence, of some kind, somewhere. You have yours. Whether it be little, or whether it be much, use it for good. Throw it on the scale of right. Perhaps that scale may be hanging poised by the opposite scale loaded with evil. A feather thrown upon one or the other will give the one that receives it the preponderance, and up goes the other. Your influence may be small—it may be but a feather, compared with that of others, but that feather, thrown on the right side, will insure its triumph.

You can have good influence on the schools of your district even if you never see them. Your association with the children, your advice to them to be studious, orderly and obedient, will do much to aid the master in keeping order and applying good instructional effectually. On the contrary, evil advice may be productive of insubordination and misrule. Many an inscription among the scholars of a school has originated in outside influence, among busy and officious loafers and injudicious parents, who suffer their prejudices to act instead of their better and cooler judgment.

Parents and guardians of children, and teachers, should not be content with merely furnishing good schools—good fixtures and good teachers for children, they should exert themselves to make every thing pleasant and interesting to them. To do this, their leisure hours, their sports by day, and their employments in the evening, should be of that kind which, while they give excitement and exercise, will have a tendency to illustrate the practical bearing of their studies. Furnish them with pleasant and useful reading for evening recreation.

Keep these posted up with the times. Let them have good family newspapers and magazines to read, and help them by conversation and directing their energies in the proper channel to understand and feel an interest in the progress of things going on in the world, a part of which they are, and in which they must soon take an active part.

If no other publication offers itself to you, place the Maine Farmer within their reach every week and help them to discuss and criticise its contents. Help them along in the spring time of their days—help them in their school exercises—help them by your good advice—help them by your judicious sympathy in their trials—help them by your influence, and help them by your praiseworthy examples. The seed thus sown will some day return a hundredfold.

SHIP BUILDING. The Hallowell Gazette notes indications of a revival in the ship building business in that city. Like all other branches of business, ship building has been extremely dull, and probably there has not been a time since she engaged in the business, when Maine has built so little tonnage, in the same period, as during the past year. With the revival of business, shipping will be in demand, and our deserted ship yards will once more present a scene of activity and prosperity. We hope that time is not far distant.

NEW PAPER. We have received the first Nos. of the Bridgton Reporter, a very neatly printed and ably edited sheet. Under the name of "Oasis," this paper was published at Nashua, N. H., for a number of years, but within a short time its proprietor, Mr. S. H. Noyes, has moved the establishment to Bridgton, Me., and adopted a new name. We hope it will meet with good success.

A HORSE THIEF ARRESTED. Last week, John Merrill, a noted horse thief, who escaped from the Norridgewock Jail last spring, was arrested in Philadelphia, and has been returned to his old quarters.

THE MAINE FARMER: AN AGRICULTURAL AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

TOGUS SPRINGS.

Most of our readers, in this vicinity, at least, are familiar with the name of Togus Springs, and have often visited them. But perhaps all may not be aware that they are to be converted into a second Saratoga, and that a large and handsome hotel is now going up, which, in connection with other improvements to be made there, will cost some \$20,000. The last Hallowell Gazette has an article on the subject, in which it urges these improvements, and the fact that Hallowell is the nearest route to the Springs, as an additional and forcible argument for the erection of a bridge at that place.

The Gazette remarks:—

"We have before stated that an enterprising and wealthy gentleman, Mr. Beals, of New York, had purchased the celebrated Togus Springs and a large tract of land in the vicinity, and engaged a number of men to fit up the dimensions and elegant equipments preparatory to the accommodation of the crowds of visitors for the coming season. The house is already in a state of forwardness, and will be ready for occupancy early in the Spring. The expenditure of some \$20,000 in the locality of the Springs will greatly towards increasing the beauty and popularity of the place. The new hotel will be a great attraction to the tourists, and will be attractive to all classes of persons, from high to low, from rich to poor, should have an equal chance to acquire the first great rudiments of learning at the public expense. These schools, established as they were among a people who were under the necessity of employing themselves, and every child who could do anything, in some sort of productive labor in the summer, were opened during the winter, when the children could not be employed so profitably, and the time was devoted to the improvement of their minds. Hence, when the harvests were over, and the day of thanks had been suitably celebrated, the schools were opened and the children sent to their respective teachers to obtain as much knowledge as their time, talents and opportunities would allow during the season. A more abundant condition of funds was known in early times, enables the people of cities and villages to have public schools in operation now, all the time,—but in country districts the good old custom still prevails, and the "Mondays after Thanksgiving" opens hundreds and thousands of schoolrooms, to a mighty multitude of young and ardent minds, who eagerly seize the opportunity to store up the first principles of an education which is to make them useful for all their coming lives.

It is a serious consideration for all concerned, for parent and child, for pupil and teacher, how can the school be rendered most profitable to these young minds? It indeed appears most strange how anybody can think of these schools with indifference; more especially does it appear strange to us that parents who have children in these schools, can pass along without bestowing hardly a thought upon them, or seeming to care in the least whether they are well or ill managed, and whether their children receive their education for good or for evil. One or the other they will receive there. You can have no neutrality about it. One or the other the young mind will be trained, to as sure as it goes there. Do you think, because you have built a school house, furnished it suitably, and hired a competent teacher, furnished your children with the required books and sent them to the school, that you have nothing else to do? Indeed your work has just begun, and your responsibility just commenced. It is as if you had built, and equipped, and manned your ship, and just started on your voyage, for, accordingly as you manage that voyage will be your profits, and accordingly as you manage that school will be the profits—profits to the rising generation, which will bear happily or grievously upon them to all eternity.

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You can have good influence on the schools of your district even if you never see them. Your association with the children, your advice to them to be studious, orderly and obedient, will do much to aid the master in keeping order and applying good instructional effectually. On the contrary, evil advice may be productive of insubordination and misrule. Many an inscription among the scholars of a school has originated in outside influence, among busy and officious loafers and injudicious parents, who suffer their prejudices to act instead of their better and cooler judgment.

RESOLVED, That the construction of the Aroostook Railroad is of paramount importance to the people of this County, and imperatively calls upon each and all of us for our best efforts at this time, in season and out of season, to accomplish this great object.

Resolved, That the bill before the last Legislature, granting the credit of the State in aid of the construction of this road, meets our hearty approval.

Resolved, That the next number commences the fifty-third volume, which will be considerably improved: Steel plates each month, and occasional illustrated articles will be given. The Editor will also furnish a history of the Magazine from its commencement, with reminiscences of its contributors. Terms, \$3 a year. Published by John A. Gray, New York.

NEW MUSIC. From Oliver Ditson & Co., we have received the following new pieces:—

Somebody is waiting for Somebody—ballad. By Chas. Swain. Music by L. V. H. Crosby.

Ocean Cable Quickstep. By George Hewitt.

The Three Calls, or the Eleventh Hour. By I. B. Woodbury.

My Sister smiling passed away—song. By Thomas D. Howe.

Somebody cares for me—ballad. Written and composed by Alice Foster.

The Swinging Polka. By Thos. Baker.

The above, or any of the new music of the day, sent free of postage on receipt of price.

THE TRI-WEEKLIES. Our neighbors of the Age and Journal have issued their proposals for the publication of their tri-weekly editions, during the approaching session of the Legislature. The session will probably be one of more than usual interest, as the great question of our future State policy with regard to the settlement of our public lands is to be brought up for discussion, and probably decided upon. By taking the two papers, we will receive a daily report of everything of interest going on at the capital, besides all general news of importance. The Tri-weekly Age will be published by E. G. Hedge & Co., and the Tri-weekly Journal by Stevens & Sayward. Price of each, \$1 for the session.

FIRE IN PORTLAND. On Thursday last, a fire broke out in the clothing store of Mr. M. W. Wall, on Fore St., in Portland, which was not extinguished until the lower story was pretty well burned out. The building was owned by the Merchants' Bank, and was insured for \$1750. Mr. W.'s loss is about \$2000—covered by insurance. A. F. York, tailor, second story, was damaged to the amount of some \$500. It is thought the store was broken open and robbed, and then set on fire, as no traces could be found of some \$700 in gold, which were in Mr. Wall's desk.

NOT DISCONTINUED. A committee appointed by the City Government to take into consideration the petition of the County Commissioners, to discontinue that portion of Court street between the New Jail and the Court House, reported, on Saturday last, that it was inexpedient to grant the prayer of the petitioners.

AUGUSTA LYCEUM. The directors of our Lyceum announce a new course of lectures for the present season, the first one of which will be delivered on the 16th inst., at Macon Hall.—Quite a number of home lecturers are engaged, and we believe that the course will prove as acceptable as any previous one.

THE TELEGRAPH CHESS MATCH. The first game of this match, to which we alluded in our last, was finished on Thursday last, being decided in a draw game, after 57 moves on each side.

DEATH OF A MEMBER OF CONGRESS. Hon. T. L. Harris, Member of Congress elect from the sixth district, Illinois, died in Chicago, on the 24th, of consumption.

SUDEN DEATH. As George Atter and a man by the name of Cartwright were passing along the road, on their way to the woods for Col. Goddard, when within about a mile of Levi Berry's in Smyrna, Atter suddenly dropped down in the road and expired without a groan. The deceased is said to have been a man of temperate habits, and a strict observer of the Sabbath; he died suddenly, without any apparent cause.

ACCIDENT IN CORINTH. On the 12th ult., while Mr. Joseph Johnson was at work boarding his barn, the ladder which he was ascending suddenly gave way, and in the fall his leg and hip were fractured, the latter in two places. It is thought he will never fully recover from the injuries.

UNITED STATES AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY. The United States Agricultural Society will hold its Seventh Annual meeting at Washington, on the 12th January, 1859, when the election of officers will be held, and the business required by the constitution will be considered. The members of the Society are invited to attend, and cordial invitation is extended to State and other Agricultural Associations to send delegates. The medals and diplomas awarded at the Sixth Annual Exhibition at Richmond, will be delivered to successful competitors, or their agents, and the published volume of transactions for 1858 will be distributed.

MEETING OF THE RAILROAD COMMISSIONERS. We understand that the Railroad Commissioners have called a meeting at Kendall's Mills, on Tuesday next, to take into consideration and effect a settlement of the troubles between the Peconic and Somerset roads. It is to be hoped that their labors will prove successful, and that the public may no longer be troubled by the failure of trains to connect, on the two roads.

LIGHTED UP. On Tuesday evening of last week, the city of Belfast was lighted by gas, for the first time. The gas works in that city are just completed, and the Journal is rejoicing at the prospect of release from the "diabolical burning fluid."

REPRESENTATIVE ELECTED. We omitted, last week, to notice the fact that Hon. Neal Dow had been chosen Representative to the Legislature, from Portland, in place of Wm. Chase, Esq., resigned. The election was held on the 18th ult., and Mr. D. was returned without opposition.

ROBBERY AT BUCKSPORT.—IMPORT ARREST. On Thanksgiving day, Moses Walker & Bicknell of this city, armed and lodged in jail an American Guide, and a man by the name of John Ayers, who was to meet here to convey early in January, to discuss agricultural topics, and compare statistics. Each one will receive five cents a mile mileage, and twenty-five dollars for expenses.

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THE MAINE

LATEST NEWS FROM EUROPE.



ARRIVAL OF THE CITY OF BALTIMORE.

The steamship City of Baltimore arrived at New York on Tuesday of last week, with date from Europe to the 10th ult. The following is a summary of her news:

Great Britain. The late electrician of the Atlantic Telegraph Company publishes a letter received from him by the Secretary of the Company, relating to the state of the line might be admitted to his further test and expansion, and leading to enter into the proposal contemplated by him.

The *Telegraph* publishes a letter, dated Valentia, Nov. 4, to the following effect: Great excitement prevails here in consequence of the sudden dismissal of the electric staff connected with the cable, and the unexpected closing up of the Company's premises.

On Monday Mr. McCurley, Secretary's Agent, who had been from London on the previous night, proceeded to the Telegraph office, and without any prior intimation that such a course was to be adopted, gave orders to each of the clerks on duty to leave their promises, as their services no longer required. Some time ago a number of them had agreed to leave to the 30th of November, but it was hoped that the cable would be so far repaired before then as to render their services again indispensable.

The laying of the shore end was commenced on Monday, and is progressing slowly. That part of the Cable between Lough Key and Valentia is laid down, but the most part remains to be done, and a long time will elapse before it is completed.

At a banquet given by Mr. Channing's Company in London on the 9th, Sir Charles Bright, the Engineer of the Atlantic Telegraph Company, was toasted. He said that the partial failure to carry out telegraphing between Europe and America, should cause no astonishment. There could be no doubt of ultimate success; it was a mere question of time.

The ceremonies and usages attending the laying of the cable were observed. Lord Mayor of London took place on the 9th. A grand banquet was given at Guild Hall in the evening. Among the guests present were the Earl of Derby, Mr. Dierdell and other ministers. The Duke of Malakoff was the spokesman for the diplomatic corps. Lord Derby acknowledged the toast in honor of Her Majesty's ministers. He spoke of the importance of the cable to the world, and the continuance of peace, and in India the rebellion was in the main put down. He complimented Lord Elgin for his services in China and Japan. In reference to the future policy of the government, Lord Derby said they preferred to be guided by their actions, and refused to commit themselves to promises. He promised, however, that the rebels must be in store should he be compelled to withdraw from India.

The Russian Ambassador to Japan had arrived at Marselles with an advantaged treaty.

The Emperor Alexander had addressed the nobility of Moscow in grave and severe terms on the apathy they have displayed in reference to the abolition of serfdom.

A project was said to be on foot for building a new Crystal Palace for the north side of London.

Details of the Japan treaty have been published. Britain is to have a diplomatic agent at Tokyo, and Japan one in London.

France. Napoleon, in his letter to Prince Napoleon, on its reception, said he received it as testimony of Victoria's desire to efface the poignant remembrance of St. Helena, and as an additional pledge of continual fidelity.

It is stated that the ascent of the Emperor for the prosecution of Count Montalembert was obtained with difficulty, being for some time refused. The charges in the indictment are very serious, amounting to something like constructive treason.

Holland. A bill has been brought before the "States" at The Hague, for the emancipation of the slaves in Surinam and Curaçao. The bill contains 11,000,000 of florins, the second 3,000,000. The slaves are estimated for indemnity according to a tariff: a negro on a sugar plantation 375 florins; on coffee or coco 260 florins; on a cotton or rice 200 florins. There are 37,400 slaves in Jurinam, and 9000 in Curaçao.

Spain. Conference on the subject of Mexico had been held at Madrid between the Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Ambassador of England and France, and a semi-official Spanish newspaper says that the conferences promise a satisfactory solution.

Italy. The case of the Jewish boy, Mortara, who was abducted by the Roman Catholics, still occupied considerable attention, and a letter from Turin says that Count Cavour had instructed the Sardinian Charge of Affairs at Rome to remonstrate with the Roman Government in the matter.

China. The date from China by telegraph from Alexandria, Aug. 29, 1850, Hong Kong, Sept. 23, and Singapore, Oct. 7, last, arrived at Madras, and were expected to arrive at Pekin in the beginning of October. All was quiet at Canton, and trade was recommencing.

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"The official figures at the Treasury verify the statement in this correspondence several weeks ago, that the total imports for the fiscal year which expired on the 30th of June would be about two hundred millions. They are now reported at \$202,293,875, and produced a revenue of \$41,789,620, 96, inclusive of the extraordinary first quarter preceding the financial revolution, amounting to 375 florins; on coffee or coco 260 florins; on a cotton or rice 200 florins. The quarter produced nearly one-half of the whole year's revenue from customs, for the other three only average a fraction above seven and a half million each."

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France. The joint Fishery Commission between the United States and Great Britain have been sitting in New York for the last fortnight, and it is stated that they have brought their labor to a close.

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Spain. Conference on the subject of Mexico had been held at Madrid between the Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Ambassador of England and France, and a semi-official Spanish newspaper says that the conferences promise a satisfactory solution.

Italy. The case of the Jewish boy, Mortara, who was abducted by the Roman Catholics, still occupied considerable attention, and a letter from Turin says that Count Cavour had instructed the Sardinian Charge of Affairs at Rome to remonstrate with the Roman Government in the matter.

China. The date from China by telegraph from Alexandria, Aug. 29, 1850, Hong Kong, Sept. 23, and Singapore, Oct. 7, last, arrived at Madras, and were expected to arrive at Pekin in the beginning of October. All was quiet at Canton, and trade was recommencing.

It is stated that the ascent of the Emperor for the prosecution of Count Montalembert was obtained with difficulty, being for some time refused. The charges in the indictment are very serious, amounting to something like constructive treason.

THE MAINE FARMER: AN

The *Muse.*

ASK ME NO MORE.

BY ALFRED PENNISON.

Ask me no more; the moon may draw the sea; The cloud may stoop from heaven and take the shape, With fold to fold, of mountain or of cape; But, O thou fond, when have I answered thee?

Ask me no more.

Ask me no more; what answer should I give?

I love no hollow cheek or faded eye;

Yet, O my friend, I will not have that die!

Ask me no more, lest I should kill the live;

Ask me no more.

Ask me no more; thy fate and mine are sealed;

I strove against the stream, and all in vain;

Let the great river take me to the main;

No more, dear lord, for a touch I yield—

Ask me no more.

TEMPT ME NO MORE.

BY FLORENCE PERCY.

TEMPT ME no more; thy tones are sweet and deep, Yet they fall vainly on my weary ears; Pass on and leave me here to tell and weep, Counting the foot-falls of the lonesome years—

Tempt me no more!

Gather not rose-leaves trampled in the dust;

No kindness can their wasted bloom renew,

Go, let them die unheeded as they must,

Seek thou for blossoms fresh and bright with dew—

Tempt me more!

"MAMMA'S PET."

AN ACCIDENT AT CALCUTTA, AFTER THE RELIEF OF LUCKNOW.—
WOMEN and children!—what a sight
Was there, when gathered to her breast,
After their bloody, breathless fight,
Calcutta bade the victims rest!

Strong men, with veins weak and low,
Stood by to ask their names, their woe.

Some answered, but by choking sighs
And wringing hands; and some stood there
Heedless, with their unconscious eyes

Fixed in a blan, a ghost-like stare:

Some told their tale in screams, and some
Covered their faces and were dumb.

One of the throng, a little child,
A fair-haired girl, was all alone;

No mother on her darling smiled,

No brother spoke in cheering tones:

All, all alone, with eyes serene,

Sighed upon that tragic, sad scene.

They came to her, these praying men,
And one beside her knelt, and took
The orphan to his breast, and then
With gentle voice, and gentler look,
"Dear child, what is your name?" he cried:
"I'm mamma's pet," the child replied.

The wild moustache, the rough black beard
Quivered; upon her golden head

He laid his broad brown hand, and cleared
His husky throat: "Poor child," he said:

"You are called something more—say yet
Your name?"—"I'm just mamma's sweet pet."

O mother, in your dismal grave,
O murdered father, hear now
Our homage to the fond and brave,
To lavish on that baby heart—

To pay in death the sad debt—

For yours shall be the Nation's pet.

The Story Teller.

From Dickens' Household Words.

THE MINER'S DAUGHTERS;
A STORY OF THE PEAK.

BY CHARLES DICKENS.

CHAPTER I.

THE CHILD'S TRAGEDY.

There is no really beautiful part of this kingdom so little known as the Peak of Derbyshire. Matlock, with its tea gardens, trumpery and mock-heroic wonders; Buxton, with its bleak hills and fashionable bathers; the truly noble Chatsworth and the venerable Haddon, engross almost all that the public generally have seen of the Peak. It is talked of as a land of mountains, which in reality are only hills; but its true beauty lies in valleys that have been created by the rending of the earth in some primal convulsion, and which present a thousand charms to the eyes of the lover of nature. How deliciously do the crystal waters of the Wye and the Dove rush along such valleys, of dales, as they are called. With what a wild variety do the grey rocks soar up amid their woods and copes. How nighly stand in the clear heavens the lofty limestone precipices, and the grey edges of rock gleam out from the bare green domes—there never called down. What a genuine Saxon air is there cast over the population, what a Saxon bluntness lies in their speech!

It is into the heart of this region that we propose now to carry the reader. Let him suppose himself with us now on the road from Ashford-in-the-water to Tideswell. We are at the Bull's Head, a little inn on that road. There is nothing to create wonder, or a suspicion of a hidden Arcadia in anything you see, but another step forward, and—there! There sink a world of valleys at your feet. To the left lies the delicious Monsal Dale. Old Finn Hill lifts his grey head grandly over it. Hobthorpe's Castle stands bravely forth in the hollow of the hill—grey, desolate, lonely and mysterious. The sweet Wye goes winding and sounding at his feet, amid its narrow green meadows, green as the emerald, and its dark gillyards. Before we stretch on, equally beautiful, Crossbrook Dale; Little Edale shows its fountains from amidst its trees; and as we advance, the Moussemel-de-laine Mills stretch across the mouth of Miller's Dale, and startle with the aspect of so much life amid so much solitude.

But our way is still onward. We resist the attraction of Crossbrook village on its lofty eminence, and plunge to the right into Wardslow Dale. Here we are buried deep in woods, and yet behold still deeper the valley descend below us. There is an Alpine feeling upon us. We are carried once more, as in a dream, into the Saxon Switzerland. Above us stretch the boldest ranges of lofty precipices, and deep amid the woods are heard the voices of children. These come from a few workmen's houses, couched at the foot of a cliff that rises high and bright amid the sun. That is Wardslow Cop; and there we mean to halt for a moment. Forward lies a wild region of hills, and valleys, and lead mines, but forward goes no road except such as you can make yourself thro' the tangled woods.

At the foot of Wardslow Cop, before we strike the little hamlet of Bellamy Wick was built, or the glen was dignified with the name of Raven Dale, there lived a miner who had no term for his place of abode. He lived, he said, under Wardslow Cop, and that contented him.

His house was one of those little, solid, grey limestone cottages, with grey flagstone roofs, which abound in the Peak. It had stood under that lofty precipice when the woods which now so densely fill the valley were but newly planted. There had been a mine near it, which had no doubt been the occasion of its erection in so solitary a place; but that mine was now worked out, and David Dunster, the miner, now worked

at a mine right over the hills in Miller's Dale. He was seldom at home, except at night, and on Sundays. His wife, besides keeping her little house, and digging and weeding in the strip of garden that lay on the steep slope above the house, hemmed in with a stone wall, also seemed stockings for a farm-work-knitter in Ashford, which she went once or twice in the week.

They had three children, a boy and two girls. The boy was about eight years of age; and the girls were about five and six. These children were taught their lessons of spelling and reading by the mother, amongst her other multifarious tasks, for she was one of those who are called regular plodders. She was quiet, patient, and always doing, though never in a bustle. She was not one of those who acquire a character for vast industry by doing everything in a mighty flurry, though they contrive to find time for a tolerable deal of gossip under the pretence of resting a bit, and which "resting a bit" they always terminate by an exclamation that "they must be off, though for they have a world of work to do." Betty Dunster, on the contrary, was looked on as rather "a slow coach." If you remarked that she was a hard-working woman, the reply was, "Well, she's always doing—Betty's work is never done; but then she does no hurry heren."

The fact was, Betty was a thin, spare woman of no very strong constitution, but of an untiring spirit. Her pleasure and rest were, with David, come home at night, to have his supper ready, and to sit down opposite to him at the little round table, and help him, giving a bit now and then to the children, that came and stood round, though they had had their supper, and were ready for bed as soon as they had seen something of their "dad."

David Dunster was one of those remarkably tall fellows that you see about the hills, and of all things the very worst made men to creep into the little mole holes on the hill sides that they call lead-mines. But David did manage to burrow under and through the hard limestone rocks as well as any of them. He was a hard-working man, though he liked a cup of beer, as most Derbyshire men do, and sometimes came home none of the soberest. He was naturally of a very hasty temper, and would fly into great rages; and if he were put out by anything in the working of the mines, the conduct of his fellow-workmen, he would stay away from home for days, drinking at Tideswell, or the Bull's Head at the top of Monsal Dale, or down at the Miners' Arms at Ashford-in-the-water.

Betty Dunster bore all this patiently. She looked on these things somewhat as matters of course. At that time and even now, how few miners do not drink and "rolle a bit," as they call it. She was, therefore, tolerant, and let the storms blow over, ready always to persuade her husband to go home and sleep off his drink and anger, but if he were too violent, leaving him till another attempt might succeed better. David seized them, and pulling their hands down from their heads, he said, "See here! what a nice place with the stones sticking out like seats. Why's like a little house; let us stay and play a bit here." It was a little hollow in the hill side surrounded by projecting stones like an amphitheatre. The sisters were still afraid, but the sight of this little hollow with its seats of crag had such a charm for them that they promised David they would not take to the Mothid Chapel in "Tides," as they called Tideswell, whither, whenever she could, she enticed David. David, too, in his way, was fond of the children, especially of the boy, who was called David after him. He was quite wrapped up in the lad, to use the phrase of the people in that part: in fact, he was foolishly and mischievously fond of him. He would give him beer to drink, "to make a true Briton on him," as he said, spite of Betty's earnest endeavour to prevent it, telling him that he was laying the foundation in the lad of the same habits that he had himself. But David did not think that drinking was a fault at all. It was what he had been used to all his life. It was what all the miners had been used to for generations. A man was looked upon as a milksop and a Molly Coddle, though he did not take his mug of ale, and be merry with his comrades. It required the light of education, and the efforts that have been made by the Temperance Societies, to break in on this ancient custom of drinking, which, no doubt, has flourished in the hills since the Danes and other Scandinavians bored and perforated them for oil of lead and copper. To Betty Dunster's remonstrances, and commandments of tea, David would reply, "Botheration! Betty, wench!"—Then she told me about thy tea and such like pig's-wash. It was all very well for women; but a man, Betty, a man mun'ha's up a real stings, lass. He man'ha's summat to prop his ribs out, lass. He deh'le's up to prop his ribs out, lass. When she weyds th' maundred (the pick), and I wesh th' dishes, she shall ha' th' drink, my wench, and I ha' th' tea. Till then, prithee, let me alagon, and dunna, bother me, for it's no use. It only kicks my monkey up."

And Betty found that it was of no use; that it did only kick his monkey up, and so she left him alone, except when she could drop in a person's word or two. The mill-owners at Crossbrook and Miller's Dale had forbidden any public-houses nearer than Edale, and they had more than once called the people together to point out them the mischiefs of drinking, and the advantages to be derived from the very savings of temperance. But all these measures, though they had some effect on the mill people, had very little on the miners. They either sent to Tideswell or Edale for kegs of beer to peddle at the mines, or they went thither themselves on receiving their wages.

And let no one suppose that David Dunster was worse than his fellows; or that Betty Dunster thought her case a particularly hard one. David was "pretty much of a muckness," according to the country phrase, with the rest of his hard-working tribe; and Betty, though she wished it different, did not complain, just because it was of no use, and because she was no worse off than her neighbors.

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